

**REMARKS**

***Summary of the Amendment***

Upon entry of the above amendment, claims 46 – 97 will have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer and new claims 98 – 131 will have been entered for consideration by the Examiner. Accordingly, claims 98 – 131 currently remain pending.

In response to the December 2, 2010 decision by the Board of Appeals and Interferences, in which the Examiner's final rejection was affirmed, Applicants submit herewith new claims that correspond to the claims allowed in the counterpart European application, now European Patent No. 1 075 568.

For the Examiner's convenience, a copy of the European patent is attached. Further, Applicants note that the claims of the European patent have been amended only to address formal matters, i.e., to remove reference numbers/letters and to remove multiply dependent claims. Also, the term "characterized in that" has been changed to "wherein."

Otherwise, the claims now pending correspond to the patent claims of the European counterpart application, and Applicants request consideration and allowance of these new claims in the next official communication.

***Application is Allowable***

Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that each and every pending claim of the present invention meets the requirements for patentability under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103, and respectfully request the Examiner to indicate allowance of each and every pending claim of the present invention.

*Authorization to Charge Deposit Account*

If for any reason a check including the amount for any necessary fees is not associated with this file, the undersigned authorizes the charging of any necessary fees, including any extensions of time fees required to place the application in condition for allowance by Examiner's Amendment, to Deposit Account No. 19 - 0089 in order to maintain pendency of this application.

**CONCLUSION**

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that none of the references of record, either taken alone or in any proper combination thereof, anticipate or render obvious the Applicants' invention, as recited in each of claims 98 - 131. The pending claims correspond to the claims patented in the counterpart European application, now European Patent No. 1 075 568.

Further, any amendments to the claims which have been made in this response and which have not been specifically noted to overcome a rejection based upon the prior art, should be considered to have been made for a purpose unrelated to patentability, and no estoppel should be deemed to attach thereto.

Accordingly, reconsideration of the outstanding Office Action and allowance of the present application and all the claims therein are respectfully requested and now believed to be appropriate.

Respectfully submitted,  
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February 2, 2011  
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